



THE TRANSFORMERS SPOTLIGHT

\$3.99
CVR A



KEN ROSE

WHEELIE



THE TRANSFORMERS SPOTLIGHT

\$3.99
CVR B

#1st
COLLECTOR'S
EDITION!

TRAPPED ON PLANET LU-117, ONE
LITTLE AUTOBOT HAS JUST ONE AIM:
SURVIVAL! BUT CAN

WHEELIE

OUTRUN THE UNSPEAKABLE TERROR
OF THIS PLANET'S MOST HORRIFIC
CRITTER? THE GIANT

CHAOSTERON!

FEATURING:



SPECTRO!



SPYGLASS!



AND THE FATE OF
THE DECEPTICON
KNOWN AS
VIEWFINDER!



WHO OR
WHAT IS
VARTA?!

50¢

K-SHP08
-DAMIR-



ANOTHER SELF-CONTAINED
IDW MASTERPIECE FROM
THE FAMOUS SPOTLIGHT
SERIES, BROUGHT TO YOU
BY SIMON FURMAN AND
KLAUS SCHERWINSKI.



THE TRANSFORMERS SPOTLIGHT

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RI CVR



WHEELIE



COVER CHECKLIST:



COVER A



COVER B



COVER RI
SKETCH COVER



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Special thanks to Hasbro's Aaron Archer, Michael Kelly, Amie Lozanski, and Richard Zambarano for their invaluable assistance.

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THE TRANSFORMERS: SPOTLIGHT: **WHEELIE**

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CYBERTRON,
THE GREAT WAR.

ANY FRONTLINE, EVERY
BIG PUSH... THAT'S WHERE
YOU'D FIND ME. BUT WHEN
YOU'RE MY SIZE...

ULTRA
MAGNUS-WAIT!
YOUR RESERVE
ARTILLERY!

...IT'S EASY TO BE
OVERLOOKED.

I NEVER LET IT GET ME
DOWN, THOUGH, OR HOLD ME
BACK. UPBEAT, OPTIMISTIC;
I KNEW, SOONER OR LATER...

...I'D GET MY SHOT.

REALLY? NO WAY!
I MEAN... I WON'T
LET YOU DOWN!

SADLY, MY SCOUT
SHIP DID.

...NAVIGATIONAL SYSTEMS
ARE INOPERATIVE. MAIN
ENGINES AND LANDING GEAR
NON-FUNCTIONAL—I'M
GOING DOWN!

HELLO?
ARE YOU
RECEIVING
ME?

"ANYONE?"





THAT WAS A LONG TIME
AGO. ANOTHER LIFETIME.

RECENTLY, THERE REALLY
HASN'T BEEN A WHOLE
LOT TO BE UPSET
AND OPTIMISTIC ABOUT.

AS A SPECIES, WE ARE DEFINED BY
CHANGE. IT'S A CONSTANT STATE OF
BEING FOR 'TRANSFORMERS.' IF WE SIT
STILL, BECOME IMMUTABLE, A SMALL
BUT IMPORTANT PART OF US DIES.

THE WAY I SEE IT NOW, MY MISSION TO THE
STARS WASN'T JUST ABOUT WIDENING MY
OWN HORIZONS. WHATEVER I DISCOVERED OUT
HERE WAS MEANT TO HAVE REPERCUSSIONS
FOR CYBERTRON AS A WHOLE!

BUT... THIS PLANET TURNED OUT TO
BE ONE BIG, FAT DEAD END-A FULL
STOP. MY LIFE HERE'S BECOME ALL
ABOUT ONE SINGLE SOLITARY THING:



I STILL GET DISLOCATED PANGS,
GHOST-NERVE IMPULSES FROM
A LONG AMPUTATED LIMB.

IT COMES UPON ME
WHEN I LEAST EXPECT IT,
WEAKENING MY RESOLVE,
BROACHING MY DEFENSES.

ME, AS I WAS: KEEN, EAGER,
A LIGHTEARTED QUIP FOR
EVERY OCCASION, BUT UNDER
IT ALL, THIS OVERRIDING
DESIRE TO BE TAKEN
SERIOUSLY, TO SHOW WHAT
I COULD REALLY DO.

WHEN HOTSPOT CHOSE ME,
ABOVE SO MANY OTHERS,
IT MEANT THE WORLD.

WHEELIE—
WE'RE ALL
COUNTING ON
YOU!

SIR,
YES SIR!

I COULD HARDLY WAIT TO
START, MY BIG CHANCE!

IS THIS
WISE?

MM, THERE'S
A WHOLE LOT OF
UNIVERSE, JETFIRE,
AND ONLY SO MANY
BODIES TO SCOUT
AND SCAN FOR
HABITABLE
WORLDS.

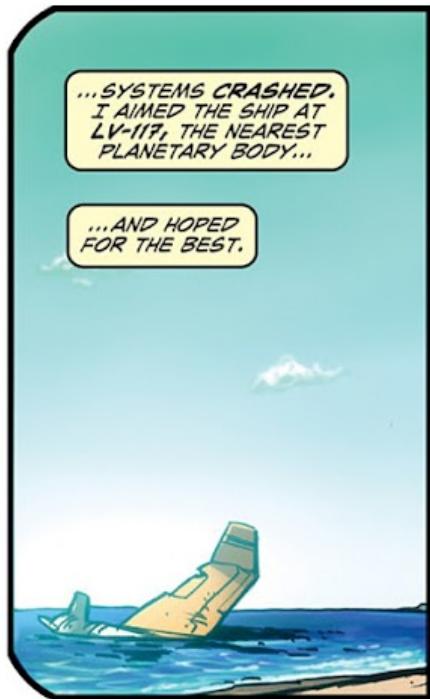
TRUTH
OF IT IS,
WE'RE HAVING
TO MAKE
DO.

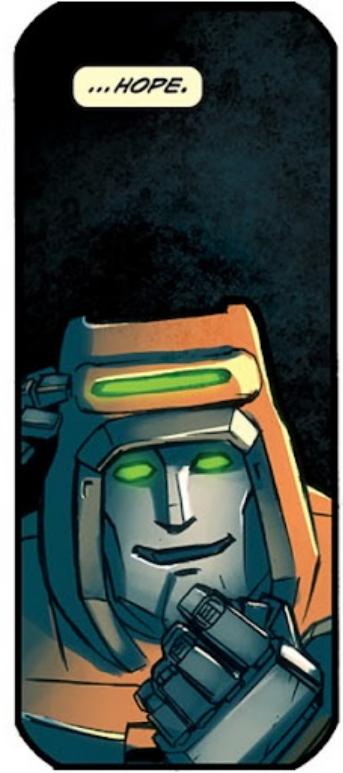
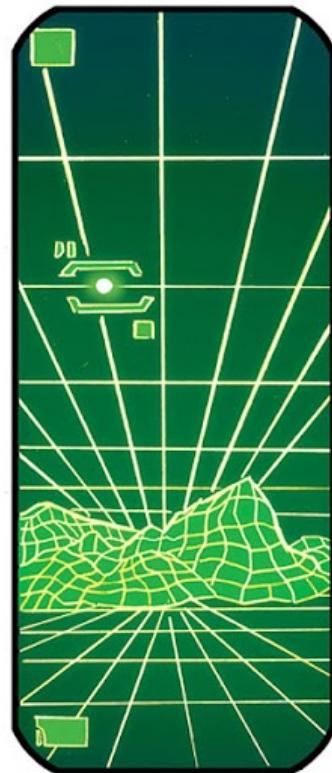
NINETY THOUSAND
STELLAR KLIKS OUT...

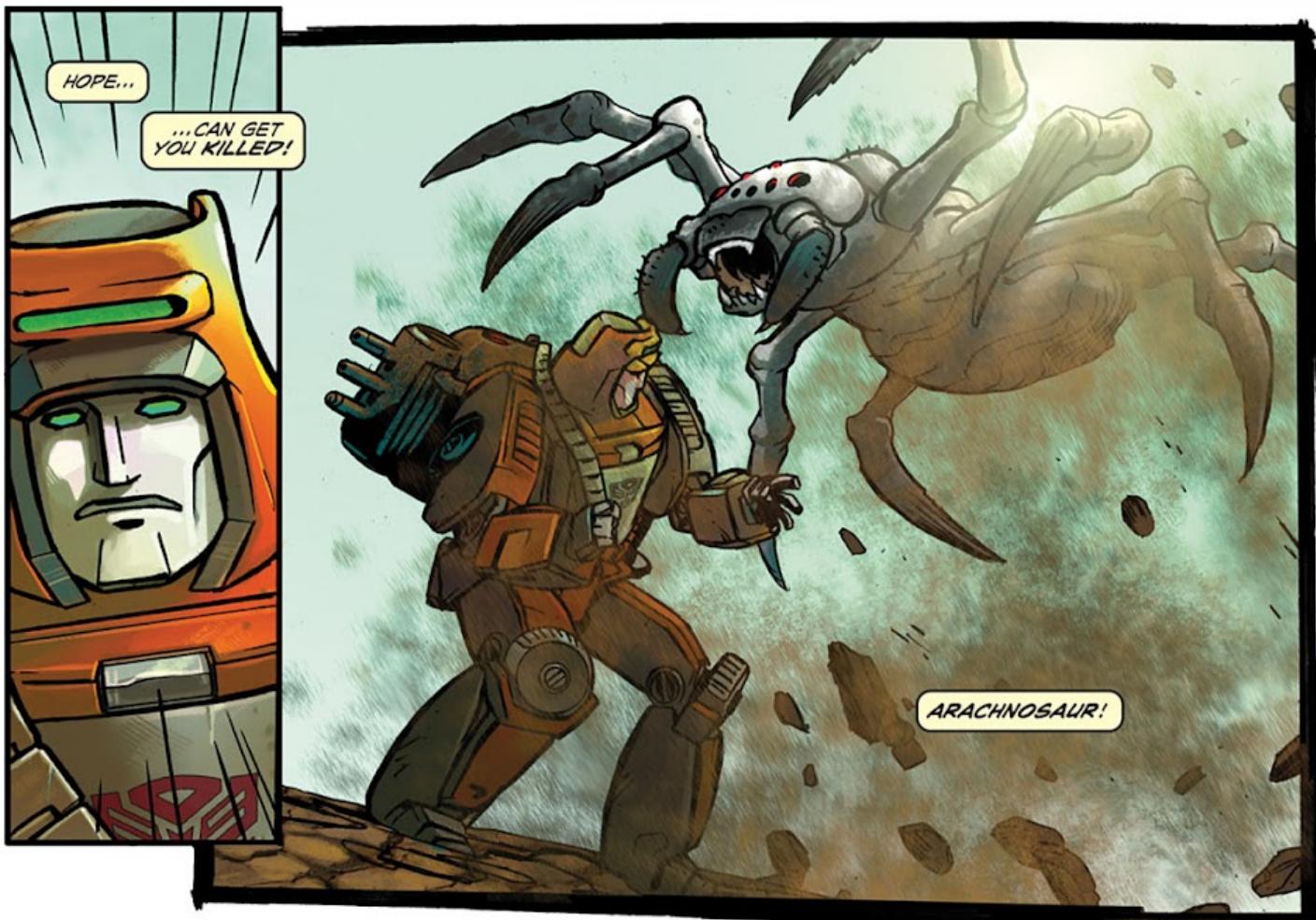
...WHAM! A RADIATION
BELT WIPES OUT MY
NAVIGATIONAL INTERFACE.

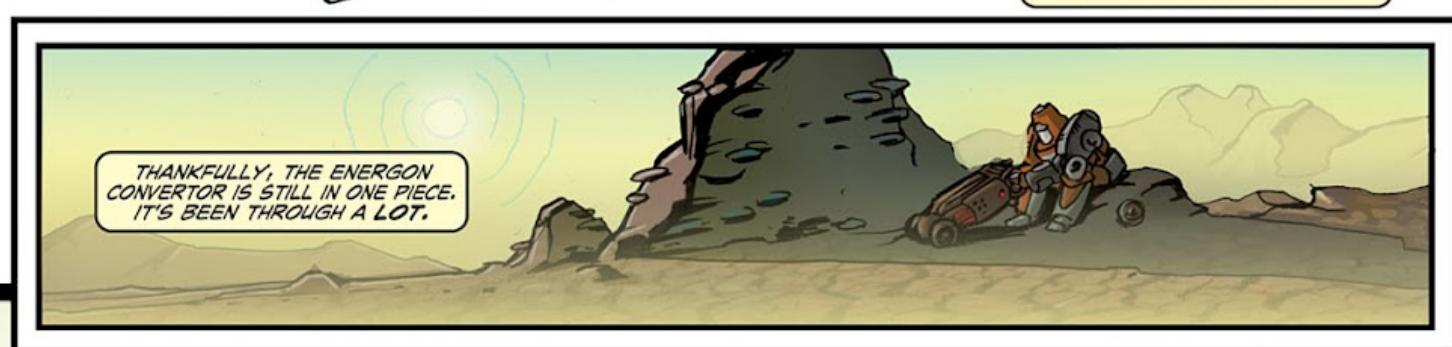
IN QUICK
SUCCESSION...

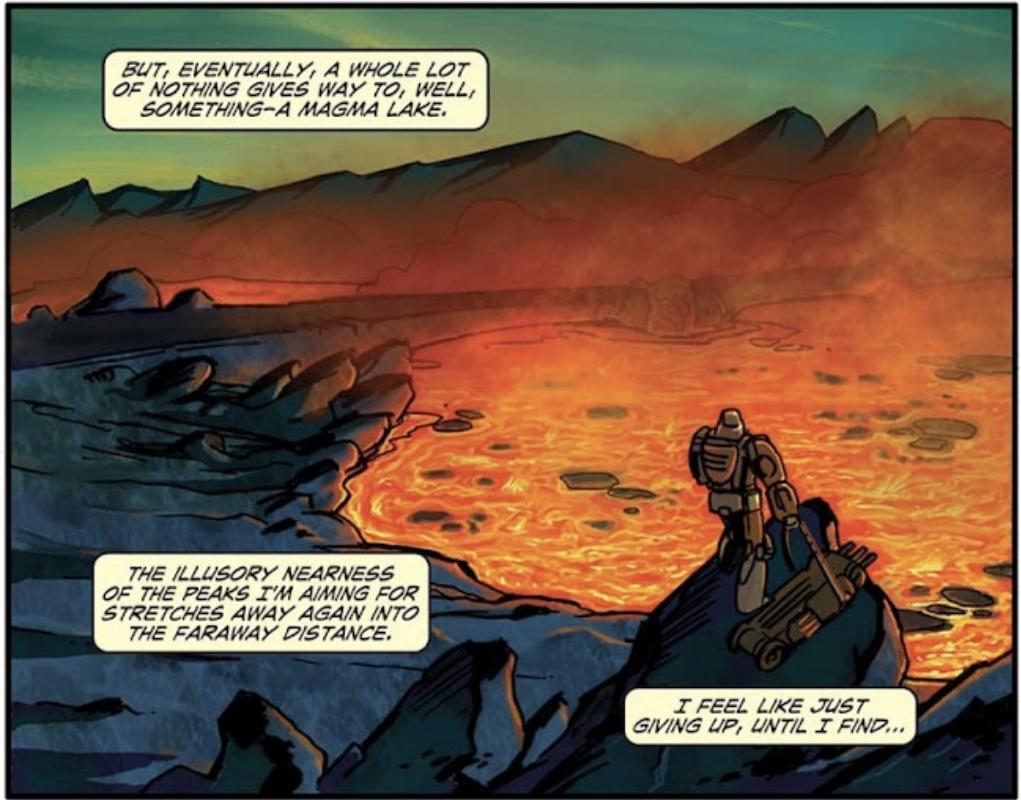
CRASHING



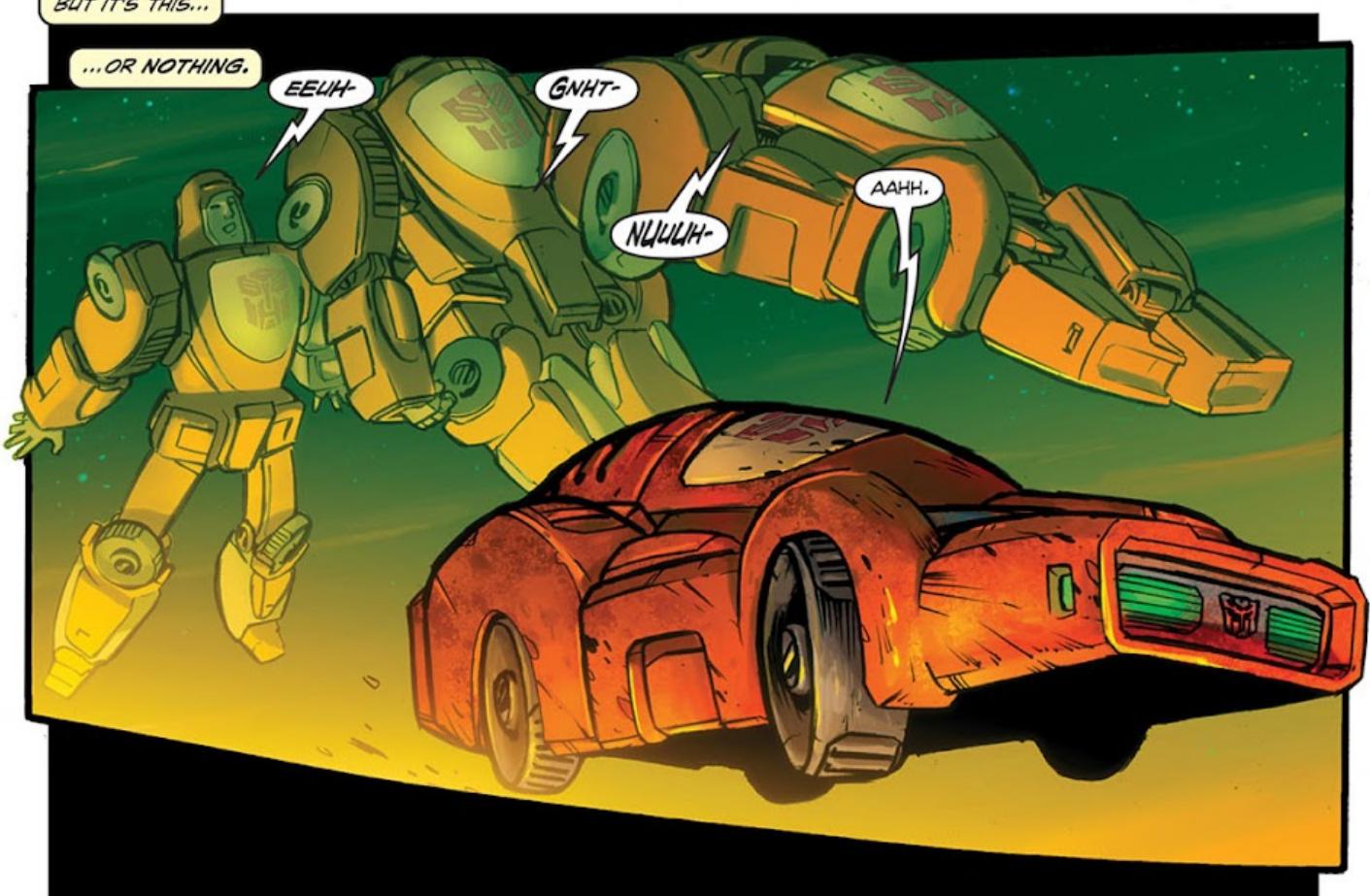




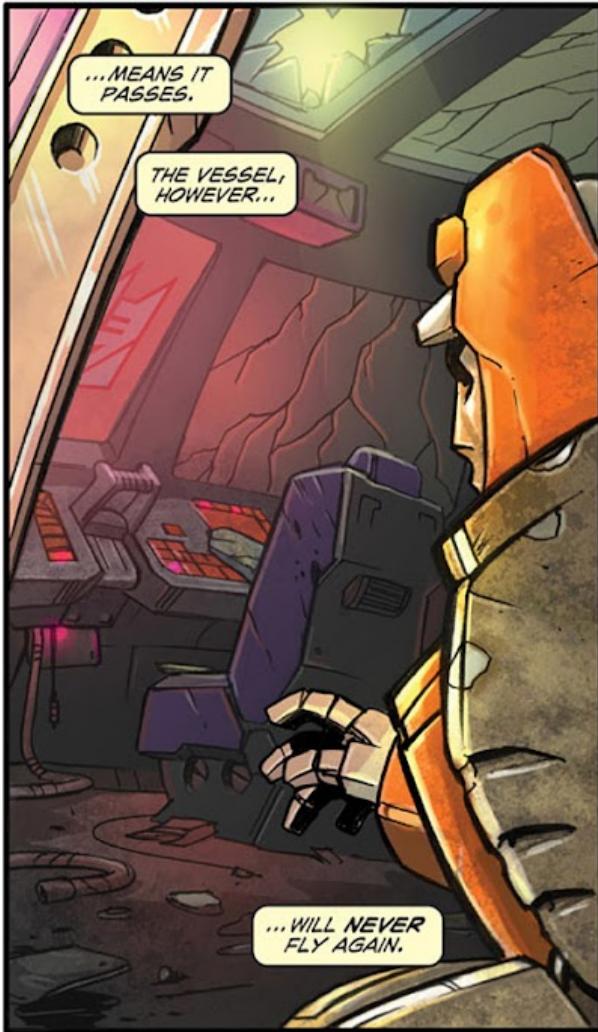








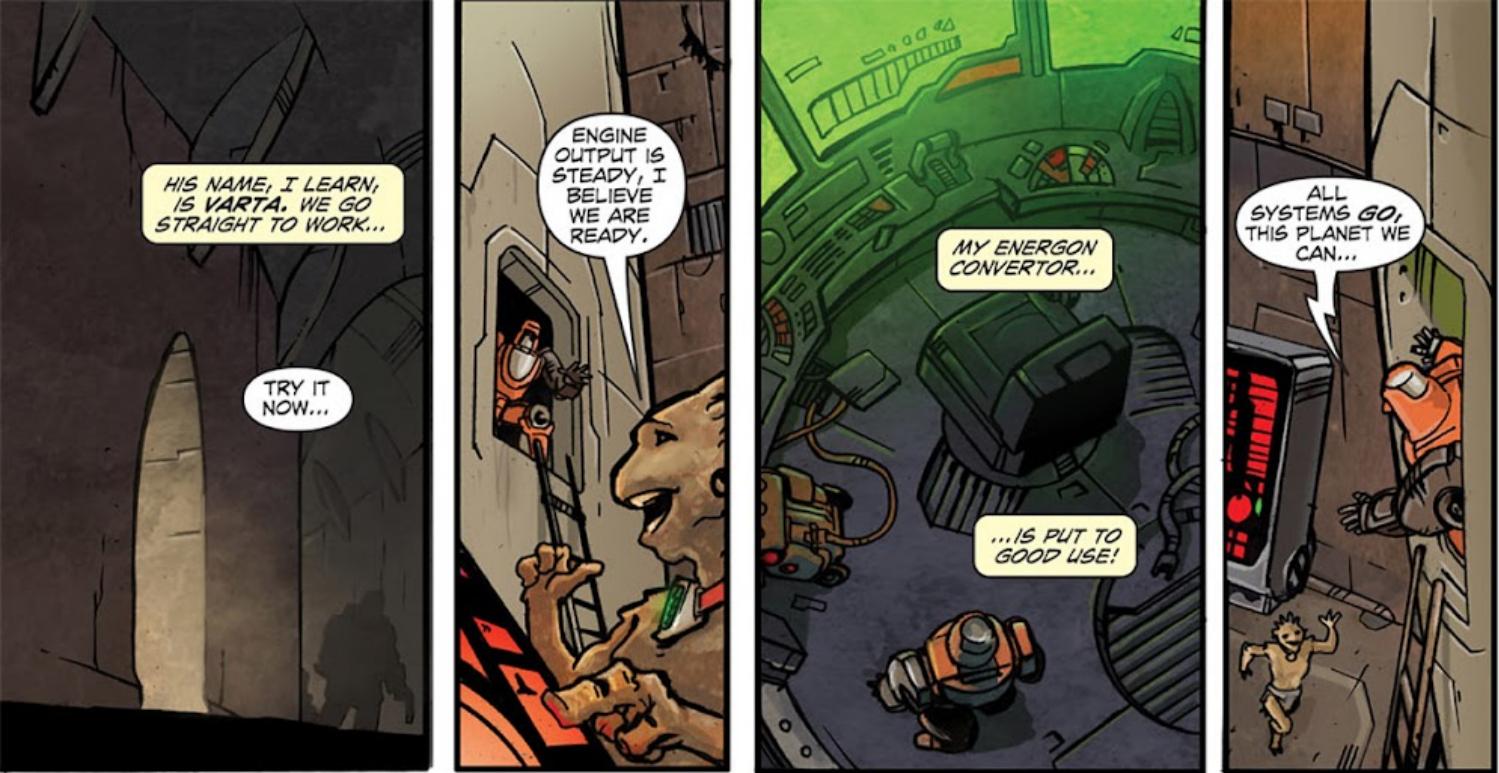
















I SHOULD
BE HUMBLE AND
TACIT... BUT, HEY,
DECEPTICONS-
FRAG IT!

BLEEP!
(SYNTAX
ERROR)

NO REWARD
FOR VICE BUT
FIREWORKS...
NICE.



ONE YEAR LATER.

IN THE DECA-CYCLES FOLLOWING SPECTRO AND SPYGLASS'S SPECTACULAR EXIT, VARTA AND I SALVAGE WHAT WE CAN FROM THE WRECK...

...AND BUILD A NEW HOME ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE ANCIENT CITY.

SPEAKING IN VERSE SOON BECOMES SECOND NATURE.

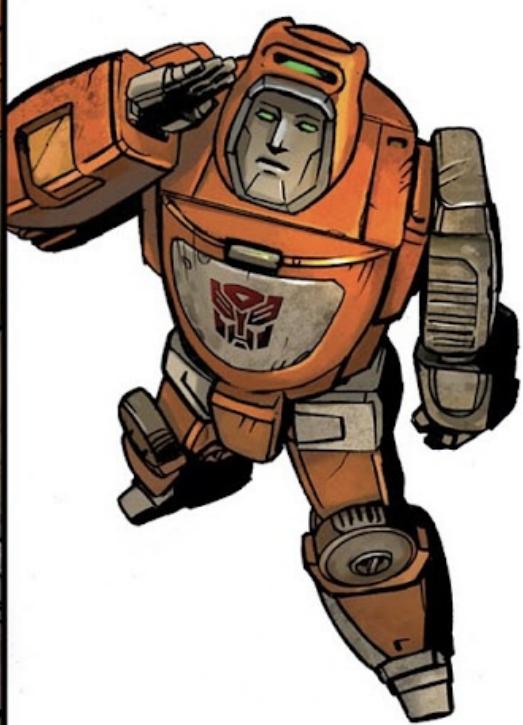
I'LL PREP THE SONIC LIMITER THEN GO CHECK THE PERIMETER.

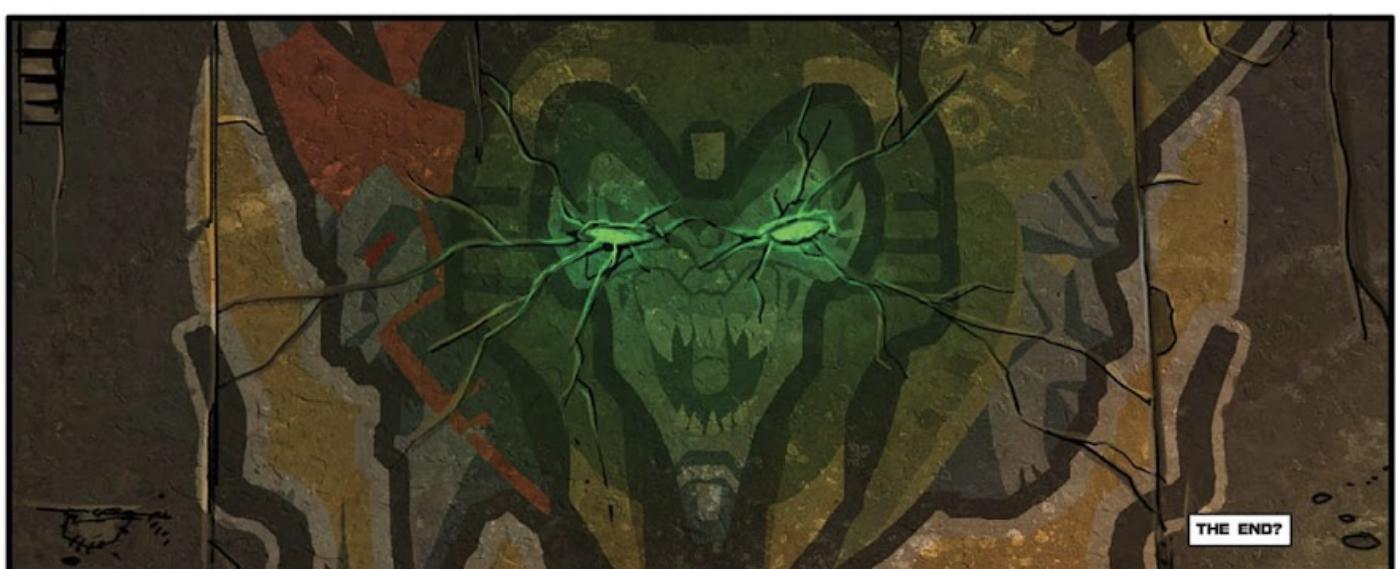
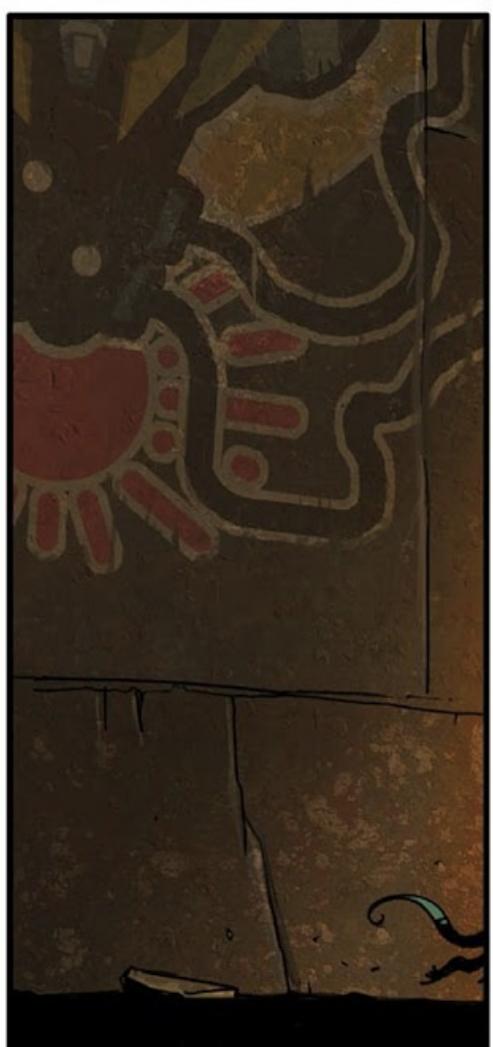
THE EVENING'S JUST TOO SUBLIME, RELAX AND TAKE SOME LEISURE TIME.

THIS FEELS GOOD, RIGHT. HERE, I'M JUST MYSELF. NO PRETENCE, NO SELF-DELUSION. I FIND I CAN FINALLY ALLOW MYSELF THE LUXURY...

...OF HOPE FOR THE FUTURE!

REDA





WHEELIE

SKETCHBOOK



Hi there! As this is probably the TRANSFORMERS book with the fewest number of giant robots in it, I can't impress you with many fantastic concept sketches of your favorite TF characters. However, I can present you with a glimpse into the creation of a page and how much fun it can be to design your own little planet and its critters. Enjoy!



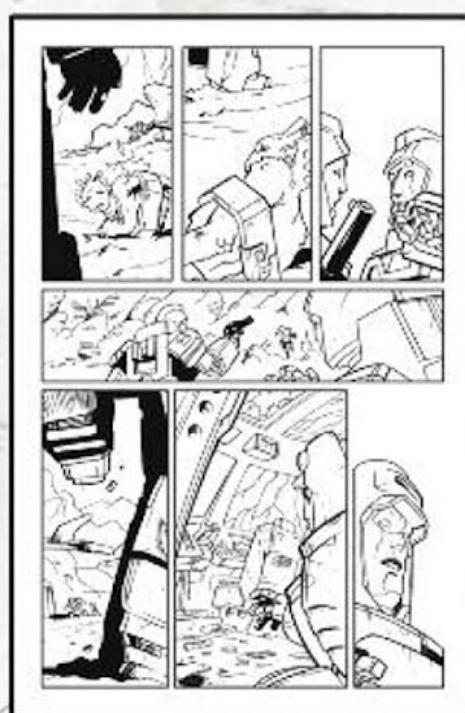
First sketch
at roughly
postcard size.



Blown up and printed
out in comic-book size,
ugly corrections added.



Rough pencils done
on a light table.



Dark line work created
from fine pencils on
the computer.



Color flats supplied
by assistants to
ease the coloring job.



Final color art.
Only thing missing
is the lettering.

KLAUS SCHERWINSKI'S *WHEELIE* SKETCHBOOK



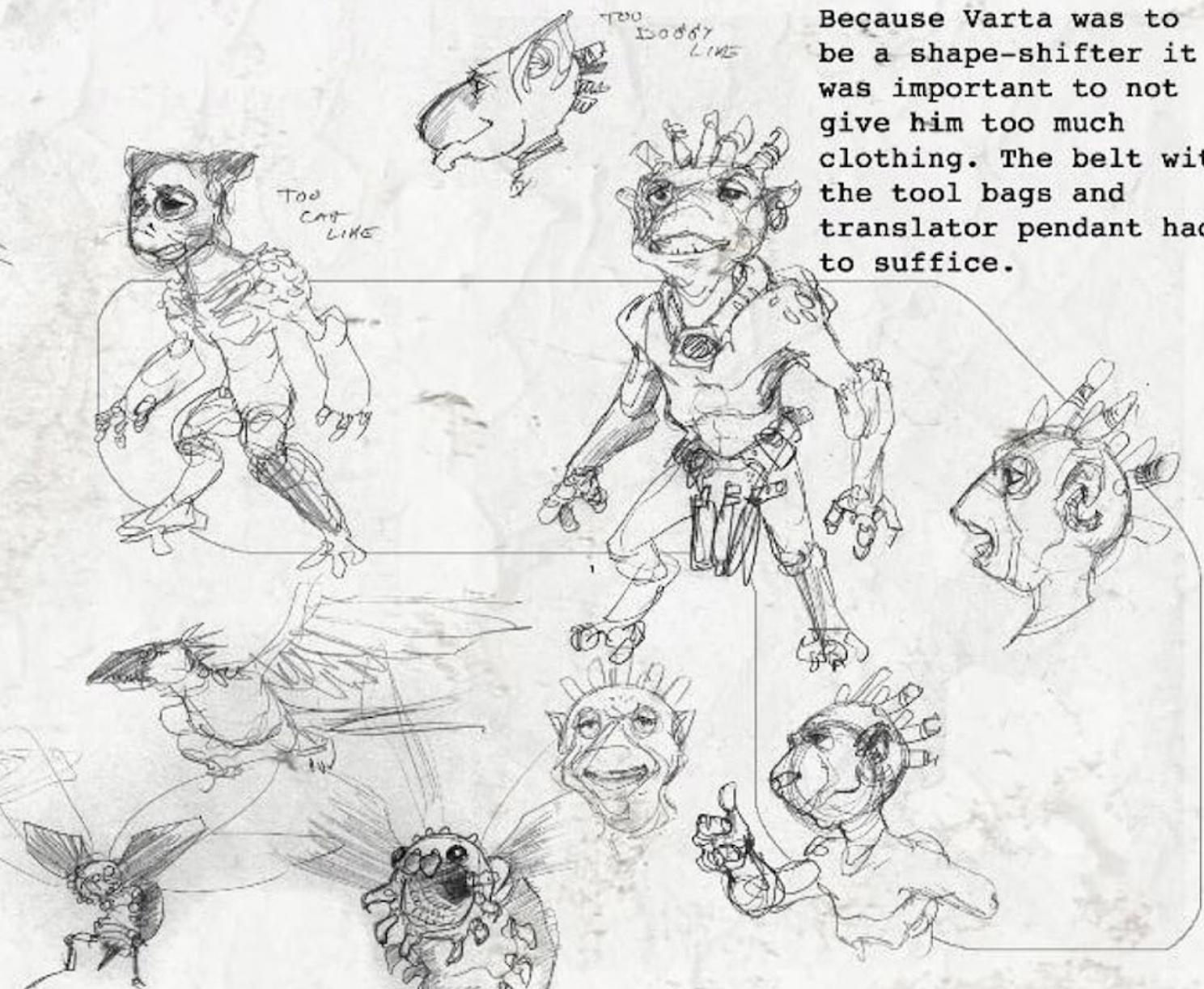
Critter design can be tricky, so it's good to start small and work from a first basic shape to anatomy, and from there to details. A front and rear view, especially in motion, will give everyone a sense of how that big creature will move and behave. The sketch on the bottom left almost made it completely into the book, I only changed the perspective a little.



K. Scherwinski '07

Bah-weep-Graaaaaagnah wheep ni niaaaaaaaaaahhhh ..*

Because Varta was to be a shape-shifter it was important to not give him too much clothing. The belt with the tool bags and translator pendant had to suffice.



Critter designs for the beach scene.



The burrowing sand spider was an easy task. Two mini sketches and the final version was done in the rough pencil stage. The coloring added a lot of drama in the end.

